

**ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus for measuring signals conveyed by a varying the  
5 voltage polarity across the tip and ring terminals in a telephone system is disclosed.  
The invention provides a composite circuit including a first stage in the form of a  
differential amplifier, a second stage in the form of a low pass filter, and a third stage in  
the form of a Schmidt trigger. The invention is capable of discerning an intentional  
polarity reversal telephony signal by eliminating transmission noise, as well as false  
10 triggering due to a high frequency (relative to a defined threshold) ring signal.

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